

Regarding Cotton Research Institute and Textile Parks in Yavatmal district

SHRI SANJAY UTTAMRAO DESHMUKH (YAVATMAL-WASHIM): Hon?ble Madam Chairperson, a high quality cotton is cultivated, at the places like Babhulgaon, Kalamb, Ralegaon, Digras, Darwha, Pusad, Karanja, Manora and Yavatmal district in my Lok Sabha Constituency. This region is recognized as a birthplace of cotton crop. The best long staple cotton is grown in Kelapur tehsil of Yavatmal district. Although, it?s a cotton belt, but no big industry or textile park has been set up there.

In Yavatmal district, around 90% farmers are cotton growers, but not even a small cotton processing unit has been opened in this area and MIDC. This Western Vidarbha region is known as a land of ?White Gold?, but around 21000 farmers have committed suicide in past 21 years. These numbers are very shocking and frightening. The farmers in this region are engaged in soyabean and cotton farming, but no MSP has been declared for these crops. Moreover, no industrial cluster is available there. So, the people are bound to commit suicide at large numbers.

As per the data released by US foreign Agriculture Agency, soyabean was cultivated on 1,10,000 hectare land and around 1,26,000 tonne of soyabean was produced. Out of this, around 39% of soybean was yielded from Maharashtra state. The farmers from the regions like Vidarbha and Marathwada cultivate soyabean at a very large scale.

Madam, this soyabean crop fetched the rate of Rs. 6000 per quintal in 2018, but today, the Government is offering only Rs. 4892 as MSP. Soyabean procurement centres are also closed by Central and State Governments. So, the soyabean is still lying at the godowns of farmers.

Hence, through you, madam, I would like to request the Union Government to start cotton processing units in this region. The farmers should get remunerative prices for their agricultural produces. Big cotton mills, Textile Parks, and other advance technology industries should also be set up here. It would help to get fair prices for farm products and also to generate employment in my Lok Sabha Constituency.

Thank you.

